

# Coronavirus Update: August 4th

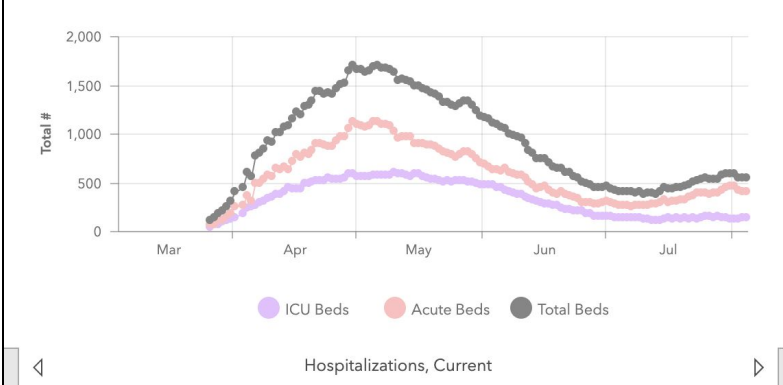
## Congressman David Trone (MD-06)

Stats @ August 4th, 3:00 pm

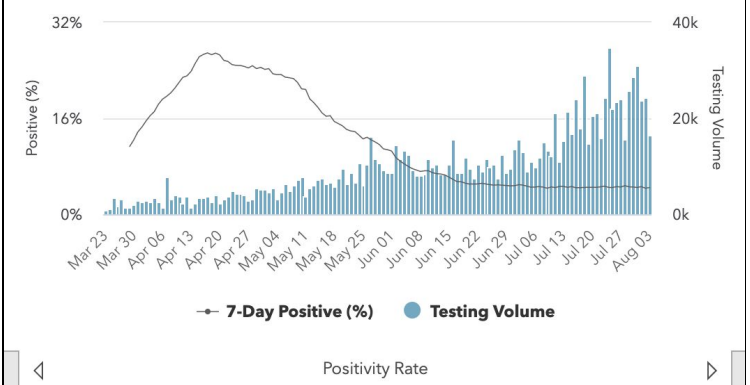
Charts are sourced from the Maryland [coronavirus](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/) website.

### MARYLAND DATA

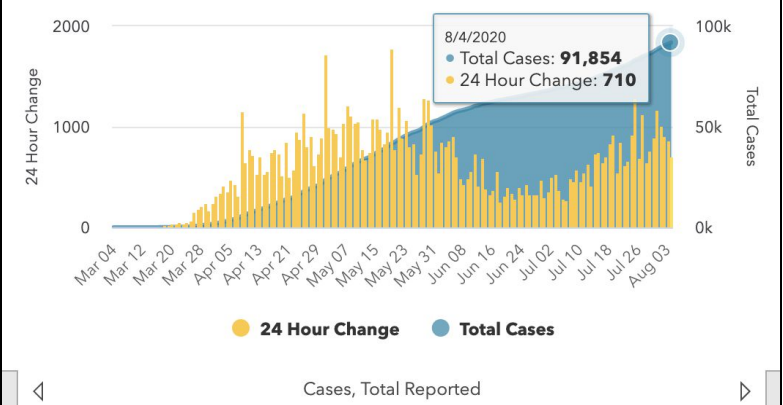
ICU and Acute Hospital Beds for COVID-19, Currently in Use



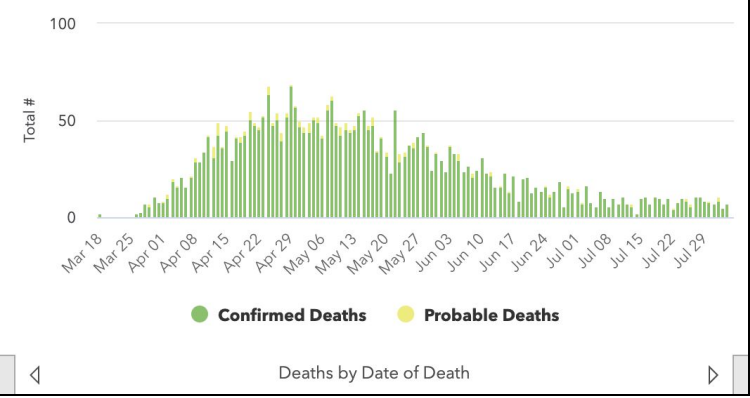
Testing Volume, Tests per Day and Percent Positive Rate (7-Day Avg)



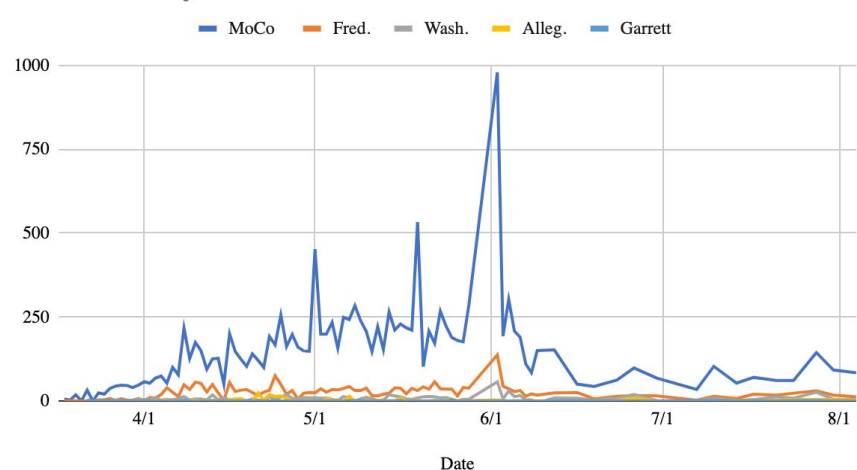
Confirmed Cases, Total over Time



Confirmed and Probable Deaths, Totals by Date of Death



MD-06 County COVID-19 New Cases



Total cases reported: MoCo 17,910, Fred 3,016, Wash 986, Alleg 276, Garrett 44. MD: 88,346, MD deaths: 3,362. As of 3:00 pm on August 4th, the U.S. had recorded 4,738,853 confirmed cases and 156,041 deaths due to Coronavirus (JHU).

## Federal News

- Coronavirus is more widespread in the US than ever before, prompting White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Dr. Deborah Birx to say over the weekend that the country has entered a "new phase" of the pandemic. The virus is now hitting urban, suburban and rural areas and has even spread to Americans living on islands. Hawaii and Puerto Rico both saw their highest seven-day averages of new daily cases on Monday, per data from Johns Hopkins University. ([CNN](#))
- On Monday, Dr. Anthony Fauci, the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said schools and college campuses across the country should be OK to reopen, but officials need to proceed with caution and make safety a priority. The default position with K-12 schools should be to reopen them, said Fauci. ([CNN](#))
- A new Yahoo News/YouGov poll, conducted July 28 to 30, shows that just 42% of Americans plan to get vaccinated for COVID-19 — the smallest share to date. For a COVID-19 vaccine to actually stop the pandemic, scientists estimate that at least 60% of the population — and probably closer to 75 or 80% — would need to be vaccinated, a number that depends on many factors, including the efficacy of the vaccine itself and how widely the virus has already spread. ([Yahoo News](#))
- As the world awaits a COVID-19 vaccine, the next big advance in battling the pandemic could come from a class of biotech therapies widely used against cancer and other disorders - antibodies designed specifically to attack this new virus. Development of monoclonal antibodies to target the virus has been endorsed by leading scientists. Dr. Fauci, the top U.S. infectious diseases expert, called them "almost a sure bet" against COVID-19. Monoclonal antibodies - grown in bioreactor vats - are copies of these naturally-occurring proteins. ([New York Times](#))

## Maryland Updates

- On Tuesday, Governor Larry Hogan said that he's working with other states to buy coronavirus antigen tests that return quick results. Maryland formed an alliance with the states of Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, and Virginia, as well as the Rockefeller Foundation, to negotiate to buy 3 million antigen tests, equivalent to 500,000 per state. The states are "in discussions" with test manufacturers Becton Dickinson and Quidel, Hogan said Tuesday. Both companies have tests on the market that received emergency approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. ([Baltimore Sun](#))
- The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association is postponing the fall and winter high school sports seasons, with the coronavirus pandemic continuing and case counts climbing back upward. The decision comes as many school districts delay in-person learning, and three months after the cancellation of the 2020 spring sports season because of the pandemic. ([Baltimore Sun](#))
- On Monday, Governor Larry Hogan issued an amended emergency order giving local schools and school systems the primary authority to initially determine when to reopen their facilities for in-person instruction, based on public health guidance. Under an order issued April 5, local health departments continue to have the authority to close any individual facility deemed to be unsafe. ([Office of Governor Larry Hogan](#))

## District Updates

- Montgomery County
  - a. Tuesday morning the Maryland Department of Health reported 17,910 cumulative cases of COVID-19 in Montgomery County, which is an increase of 342 since last reported.

- b. As of Friday Morning, 794 county residents have died from COVID-19.
  - c. In response to the Governor's order allowing private schools to have in-person instruction, Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich said, "Our decision to restrict nonpublic schools from in-person instruction was made with one concern in mind – protecting the public health of our residents. It was not an easy decision. As we have done throughout this pandemic, we used data and science to guide us – not politics."
  - d. The Montgomery County Board of Elections is providing information to help make voting as easy and as safe as possible for residents on November 3. They are strongly encouraging residents to vote by mail. More information on voting by mail can be found [here](#).
- Frederick County
  - a. The state reported 30 new COVID-19 cases in Frederick County, bringing the total to 3,016.
  - b. The total number of county deaths from COVID-19 still stands at 114.
  - c. County Executive Jan Gardner and county health officer Barbara Brookmyer announced the opening of a new testing site, the expansion of data reported on the county health department's website, and their support of Gov. Hogan's expanded order on facial coverings. The new testing site at 1100 W. Patrick Street-Unit H along the Golden Mile will open Aug. 8 and offer free screenings.
- Washington County
  - a. As of Friday, August 4, the total number of COVID-19 cases in Washington County was 986, and the total number of deaths stands at 30.
  - b. The Maryland Department of Commerce and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development today announced that a third round of emergency relief funding will soon be used to assist local 501(c)(6) nonprofit associations that have been negatively impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in Maryland. The application portal is scheduled to launch on August 17.
- Allegany County
  - a. Allegany County's cumulative COVID-19 case count rose by 10 to 276, according to county health officials.
- Garrett County
  - a. The total number of COVID-19 cases in Garrett County has risen to 46.
  - b. Any future community COVID-19 testing dates will be announced on the health department's Facebook page and website, [garrettthealth.org](https://garrettthealth.org).